

LEONARD LANCE
7TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE:
FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES:
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
AND CONSUMER CREDIT

DOMESTIC MONETARY POLICY
AND TECHNOLOGY



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

April 13, 2009

114 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
PHONE: 202-225-5361
FAX: 202-225-9460

425 NORTH AVENUE, EAST
WESTFIELD, N.J. 07090
PHONE: 908-518-7733
FAX: 908-518-7751

23 ROYAL ROAD, SUITE 101
FLEMINGTON, N.J. 08822
PHONE: 908-788-0900
FAX: 908-788-2889

Captain Joe McClean
United States Navy Congressional Liaison Office
B324
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

09-05-04407:14 RCVD

Dear Captain McClean:

Congressman Lance was recently contacted by a constituent, (b) (6) regarding his service-connected disability compensation through the Department of Veterans Affairs. (b) (6) compensation has been reduced by the Department of Veterans Affairs to recoup a severance he received from the United States Navy for a high-year tenure discharge in 2004. (b) (6) believes the recoupment of this severance is incorrect because it was part of an overall severance package offered to him by the United States Navy. In addition, (b) (6) states that the Navy never informed him that the severance would adversely affect his disability compensation.

I have enclosed a copy of his letter and supporting documents for your review and would appreciate any information your office may provide regarding this matter.

Thank you for your assistance. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Manager of Community Relations

Enclosures

cc: (b) (6)

Please print this form and fax or mail to:
Congressman Leonard Lance
23 Royal Road, Suite 101
Flemington, New Jersey 08822
Attn: (b) (6)
Fax: 908-788-2869

Privacy Authorization Form

Date: 31 MAR 09

(b) (6)

Agency Involved: VA

Numbers Identifying Case (VA claim, Alien number, tax ID, etc.): SSN

Date and Place Claim was Filed: SAN DIEGO, CA / NEWARK, NJ

Please describe problem in detail: PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

In accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act, I hereby authorize Congressman Lance or a member of his staff to make the appropriate inquiries on my behalf.

(b) (6)



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Debt Management Center

Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building
P.O. Box 11930
St. Paul, MN 55111-0930

FEBRUARY 25, 2009

(b) (6)

File Number: 153665924
Payee Number: 00
Person Entitled: CACLAR
Deduction Code: 30
E-Mail Address: dmc.ops@va.gov

This is to inform you that your request for waiver of your indebtedness has been referred to the Committee on Waivers and Compromises for review and a decision.

No further action is required on your part at this time. As soon as they have reached a decision, we will notify you.

Chief, Operations Division

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Regional Office
13100 San Diego Drive
San Diego CA 92108



April 05, 2004

(b) (6)

For reference to:
17727-PS

(b) (6)

IMPORTANT -- reply needed

Dear (b) (6)

We are working on your service-connected compensation claim for:

- 1) LEFT HAND, 2ND DIGIT FRACTURE;
- 2) STD, GENITAL WARTS;
- 3) CHRONIC ANXIETY/ADD;
- 4) CERVICAL STRAIN (MVA);
- 5) LUMBAR STRAIN (MVA);
- 6) POSSIBLE FRACTURE, 5TH DIGIT LEFT HAND;
- 7) SCAR, FOREHEAD;
- 8) SCAR, LEFT KNEE

This letter will give you information about what we will do, how long the claims process will take, what you can do to help us, and when you will hear from us. Please see the enclosed attachment "What is the Status of Your Claim and What You Can Do To Help" for more information about your claim.

What is VA's Duty To Assist You To Obtain Evidence For Your Claim?

We will make reasonable efforts to help you get evidence necessary to support your claim. We will try to help you get such things as medical records, employment records, or records from other Federal agencies. You must give us enough information about these records so that we can request them from the agency or person who has them. It's still your responsibility to support your claim with appropriate evidence.

We will also assist you by providing a medical examination or getting a medical opinion if we decide it's necessary to make a decision on your claim.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Regional Office
(1-800-827-1000)
8810 Rio San Diego Drive
San Diego CA 92108

In Reply Refer To: 277 2500
355 50 55-51-
12-80 1-1

(b) (6)

Dear (b) (6):

Our letter of July 7, 2008 told you we planned to stop your benefits because you re-entered active duty from June 17th, 2005 thru February 14th, 2008.

In reaching this decision, we considered military service information we received from Defense Finance and Accounting (DFAS) and our letter sent to you on July 7th, 2008.

We have stopped your payments effective June 17, 2005 thru February 14th, 2008.

We Decided

Your monthly entitlement amount is shown below:

| Total VA Benefit | Amount Withheld | Amount Paid | Effective Date | Reason For Change |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | Jun. 17, 2005 | Return to Active Duty. Benefit Eligibility Ends. Recoupment of Severance Pay Stops. |
| 356.00 | 356.00 | 0.00 | Feb 15, 2008 | No longer on Active Duty. Benefit Eligibility Reinstated. Recoupment of Severance Pay Resumes. |
| 356.00 | 80.13 | 275.87 | July 1, 2010 | Adjustment to Recoupment of Severance Pay. |
| 356.00 | 0.00 | 356.00 | Aug. 1, 2010 | Recoupment of Separation Pay Ends. |

We are paying you as a single veteran with no dependents.



09 February 9, 2009

Dear Sir or Ma'am,

I am writing this letter in reference to the letter I received from your office. The letter stated that I owe the VA \$13728.00 dollars. I have never received ANY of my VA benefits due to the fact that when I was discharged from the U.S. Navy on a high year tenure I was told by the VA representative in San Diego I would not be able to collect any compensation until I paid back that \$13728.00. My discharge was because of the navy being overmanned and was of no fault of my own. My severance was to cover the part of my contract that was still left. I was rated at 30 percent disabled. I was discharged from the Navy on 21 July 2004. I then joined the Army Reserve 14 November 2004. I was mobilized for OIF from June 2005 until February 2008. At the time of my demobilization I met with the VA Representative and he informed me that I should have been collecting my disability compensation for all the time that I was not on active duty. I am asking that this amount be waived due to the fact that my I have never received my benefits and the fact that it would place me in such a financial hardship. I have recently become unemployed and was told by the NJ Department of labor that since I had served in the military in the past 18 months I will not be permitted to collect unemployment. Thank you for your time, effort and consideration on this matter. All the help I receive is greatly appreciated.

3/31/09 Very Respectfully, (b) (6)